

Appl. No. 10/002,882
Amdt. Dated November 1, 2005
Request for RCE

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Listing of Claims

Claims 1-25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (currently amended) The method of claim ~~23-29~~ further comprising maintaining presence and availability data for each user for each conference established.

Claim 27 (currently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~ 29 further comprising said client process enabling a user to participate simultaneously in one or more conferences and to proactively notify one or more other users of any changes to any of said conferences.

Claim 28 (currently amended) ~~The A method of claim 23 further comprising the step of for establishing secure, multi-media conferences involving a plurality of users, each of said users having a client process and at least one of a voice communication media device for audio conferencing and a programmed communication media device for text conferencing, said method comprising the steps of~~

a user communicating with a conference server to initiate and receive conference participation requests,

a routing server establishing communication media connections to one of said user's communication media devices for participation in a conference,

determining that said user is entitled to participate in the conference;

securing communications being sent to said conference, said step of securing being distinct from said step of determining that said user is entitled to participate in the conference and including

a security process within said client process for obtaining a secret conference session key from a the conference server for each conference between users, and

encrypting said conference key with a second secret key for communication of said conference session key to a-the user of said conference; and

said client process associated with said user mixing the communications from a plurality of conference participants for either a multipoint audio media conference or multipoint text media conference involving said user.

Claim 29 (currently amended) The method of claim 28 wherein said step of securing communications further includes

time stamping and encryption of message data and authentication of encryption and time stamp,

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sending said time stamp, encryption and authentication of message data to a second user on said conference, and

if said authentication and time stamp are valid, said client process of said second user decrypting said message data using said secret conference session key.

Claim 30 (canceled)

Claim 31 (currently amended) The method of claim ~~23-26~~ wherein said user has both a voice communication media device and a programmed communication text media device and said user is simultaneously participating in a conference call involving one of said media devices, said method further comprising said client process establishing a second conference call involving the other of said media devices.

Claim 32 (currently amended) The method of claim 31 wherein said step of establishing said second conference call comprises

said client process requesting a communication controller to create said second conference and

said conference controller using said presence and availability information- data for the prior established conference to invite all the participants in the prior established conference to join the second conference.

Claim 33 (currently amended) The method of claim ~~23~~ 29 further comprising the step of a said user employing a user interface in said client process to signal a communication controller to create a persistent conference and wherein the conference server retains identification of the persistent conference after users to said persistent conference leave said persistent conference.

Claims 35 – 39 (cancelled)